PTO/SB/21 (01-03) Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. perwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons **Application Number** 10/615,572 **TRANSMITTAL** Filing Date July 8, 2003 **FORM** First Named Inventor Robert R. HUNTER Art Unit 2857 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) **Examiner Name** Attorney Docket Number TREND-00101 Total Number of Pages in This Submission

		ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)	
	Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Drawing(s) Licensing-related Papers Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) Remarks	After Allowance Communication to Group Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): Return Postcard, and 2 References	
<u></u>	SIGNA	ATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, O	RAGENT	
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Typed or printed

Signature

Daniel Ratoff



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

Robert R. Hunter.

Confirmation No.:

8982

Application No: 10/615,572

Examiner:

Filing Date:

7/8/2003

Group Art Unit:

2857

Title:

A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR READING AND CONTROLLING

UTILITY CONSUMPTION

<u>INFORMATION</u> DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56(a) and 1.97(b), Applicant hereby cites the following documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h) the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1610.

> Respectfully submitted, Law Office of Derek J. Westberg

Derek J. Westberg

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known Application Number 10/615,572 Filing Date 7/8/2003 First Named Inventor Robert R. HUNTER Art Unit Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number TREND-00101

	U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 5,511,188-A	04-23-1996	Pascucci, et al.	
		^{US-} 5,522,044-A	05-28-1996	Pascucci, et al.	
		^{US-} 5,550,988-A	08-27-1996	Sarangdhar, et al.	
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		^{US-} 5,924,486-A	07-20-1999	Ehlers, et al.	
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		^{US-} 5,086,385-A		Launey, et al.	
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		^{US-} 5,446,677-A	08-29-1995	Jensen, et al.	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ 'Number ⁴ 'Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	Τ ⁶
		EP-0 967 766-A2	12-29-1999	Netbrowser Communications		T
		WO-03/003029-A3	01-09-2003	TREND-POINT SYSTEMS, INC.		
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Examiner	Date	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached

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